



MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
COMMITTEE
43rd session
Agenda item 9

MEPC 43/9
16 February 1999
Original: ENGLISH

WORK OF OTHER BODIES

Outcome of MSC 70

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This note provides the outcome of MSC 70 which is relevant to the work of the Committee.
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 9
<i>Related documents:</i>	MSC 70/23

General

1 The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) held its seventieth session from 7 to 11 December 1998 and its report was circulated under the symbol MSC 70/23.

Polar Code

2 The MSC noted the progress made by DE 41 in the development of the draft Polar Code and the schedule for further development of the Code, and invited the MEPC to continue considering the environmental issues identified by DE 41 and provide advice thereon, as appropriate (MSC 70/23, paragraph 8.7).

Flag State Performance Self-Assessment Form (SAF)

3 Having intensively discussed the outcome of FSI 7 on this issue and taking into account the discussion and suggestion of MEPC 42, the MSC approved the Flag State Performance Self-Assessment Form (SAF) (MSC/Circ.889/MEPC/Circ.353). The MSC further instructed FSI 7 to prepare a draft Assembly resolution for submission to the 21st session of the Assembly through MSC 71 and MEPC 43, and also instructed the FSI Sub-Committee to start drawing up clear criteria against which the success of the performance of flag States might be assessed (MSC 70/23, paragraphs 9.12 to 9.14).

Amendments to the IBC Code

4 The MSC, having noted the concurrent decision of MEPC 42 on the matter, approved the draft amendments to chapters 8 and 16 of the IBC Code relating to cargo-tank venting systems and operational requirements and agreed, as also decided by MEPC 42, that the date of their entry into force should be 1 July 2002. The Secretary-General was requested to circulate the approved draft amendments under the

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly asked to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

provisions of the SOLAS Convention in time for their entry into force on 1 July 2002, possibly by submission to MSC 73 in December 2000 for adoption (MSC 70/23, paragraphs 10.6 and 10.7).

Amendments to the BCH Code

5 The MSC, having noted the concurrent decision of MEPC 42 on the matter, also approved the proposed amendments to chapter II of the BCH Code relating to controlled cargo-tank venting systems, and agreed that the proposed amendments should be adopted with the effective date to be the date of entry into force of the similar amendments to the IBC Code, i.e. 1 July 2002 and instructed the Secretariat to submit to MSC 73 the approved draft amendments for adoption (MSC 70/23, paragraph 10.9).

Intersessional meeting of the ESPH Working Group

6 The MSC concurred with the decision of MEPC 42 that an intersessional meeting of the Working Group on Evaluation of Safety and Pollution Hazards of Chemicals (ESPH) be held in the last quarter of 1999 (MSC 70/23, paragraph 10.11).

Work programme of the Sub-Committees and provisional agenda for their forthcoming sessions

7 The MSC approved the work programmes of the Sub-Committees and provisional agendas for their forthcoming sessions (MSC 70/23, section 20 and annex 21).

8 The MSC, in considering the outcome of MEPC 42, agreed with the MEPC's instructions to the following Sub-Committees:

- .1 the DSC Sub-Committee to consider and prepare appropriate amendments to MARPOL Annex III with a view to making the IMDG Code or parts thereof mandatory under MARPOL;
- .2 the DE, SLF and STW Sub-Committees to consider the safety and training aspects involved in ballast water management; and
- .3 the NAV Sub-Committee to consider areas to be avoided, taking into account the status of the Archipelago of Sabana-Camagüey as a PSSA and other relevant information.

Action requested of the Committee

9 The Committee is invited to note the above information and to take action as appropriate.